

DRESSING FOR AN INTERVIEW

While it may vary between industries and recruiters/hiring managers may have differing views on professional dress, when deciding what to wear to an interview you should always aim to “dress to impress”. In traditional industries (i.e. accounting, banking, law), it is best to choose more conservative dress. In some more non-traditional or creative industries (i.e. art, music, high tech) there may be more latitude for you to express yourself through your wardrobe. When scheduling your interview, you can ask what type of dress they prefer you to wear. If unsure, it is best to lean toward the conservative side. When in doubt, wear a conservative suit. Below are some examples of traditional dress:

WOMEN	
Suit:	Navy, dark gray, or black two piece, long sleeve, professional skirted or pant suit. Length of skirt should be at knee or 1” below.
Blouse:	White or pastel silk or polyester blended button-down, long sleeve shirt. Not sheer or low cut.
Shoes/Hose:	Well polished, closed toe, closed heel, dress shoe with 1-1 ^{1/2} inch heel. Natural tone or sheer black hose.
Cosmetics:	No perfume. Light application of make up. Neatly groomed nails with clear or neutral color.
Hair:	Neatly groomed and professional. Put hair up if you tend to play with your hair when talking.
Necklace:	Modest necklaces (single strand pearls, small gold or silver pendant or chain).
Earrings:	Small and close to ear. Only 1 earring per ear. No other visible piercings.
Handbag:	Small conservative handbag or briefcase.
MEN	
Suit:	Navy, dark gray, or black two piece traditional cut suit.
Shirt:	White or light blue cotton long sleeve shirt.
Tie:	Conservative, paisley, stripes, geometric patterns or solid color.
Shoes:	Black, well polished all leather lace shoes.
Belt:	Black leather.
Socks:	Black or navy blue.
Cologne:	No cologne or aftershave.
Hair:	Neatly groomed (professional cut).
Jewelry:	Analog watch and leather band. No earrings or visible piercing.
Briefcase:	Leather briefcase or portfolio.

WHAT TO BRING

Remember to bring copies of your resume (one for each interviewer), a list of references, questions to ask during the interview, and a notepad and pen with you to the interview. A leather portfolio to carry these items looks the most professional. You can also bring examples of your work if you have a neat and organized way to showcase them. Do not bring extra items such as backpacks or textbooks into the interview with you.